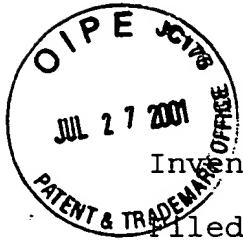


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3/A
8/20/01

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Inventor : Timmerman et al.)
 Filed : 06/19/01)
 Serial No. : 09/884,709)
 For : LATERAL FORCE RESISTING SYSTEM)
 Examiner : N/A)
 Art Unit : N/A)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please enter the following amendment to the above referenced application:

In The Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0001] on page 1 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Paul Backofen
 6/1/01
 -- [This application is a continuation-in-part of United States patent application Serial No. 09/697,030 filed 10/25/00, which is a continuation of United States patent application Serial No. 09/060,930 filed 4/14/98, now U. S. Patent No. 6,158,184, which claims the priority of United States provisional patent application Serial No. 60/043,835 filed 4/14/97.] --

Respectfully Submitted,

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